

## STUDENT LOAN RATE HIKES

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, it is disappointing that President Obama and Senate Democrats cannot agree with Republicans in the House on a simple issue like preventing student loan rates from doubling. Although a bipartisan vote in the House passed the Smarter Solutions for Students Act, the President and Senate have panned this common-ground approach.

The Smarter Solutions for Students Act is a simple plan, ready-made for bipartisan compromise, as it was patterned after President Obama's own budget proposal. Politicizing the coming student loan interest rate hike is not an option if we are serious about a July 1 solution.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to build off of the Smarter Solutions for Students Act proposal and commit to a long-term solution for students that eliminates the Washington guessing game from the rate-setting equation.

Ignoring the common ground Republicans already share with President Obama puts politics ahead of students.

## AS YOU DID TO THE LEAST OF THEM

(Mr. HIMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, the American people need to understand what's happening on the floor of the House this week with respect to the farm bill. Now, it's a complicated thing with agricultural subsidies, commodity treatments, and food stamps. And here's where the American public needs to pay attention, because the Republican majority in this Chamber is using unprecedented and massive cuts to food stamps to get an agriculture bill passed.

What are food stamps?

Food stamps are about \$4.50 a day to hungry children and to vulnerable seniors.

I'm not going to dignify this amoral effort with a counterargument. I'm just going to observe that I'm standing under 4 words: "In God we trust."

I'm going to observe that the minister this morning opened the House with a prayer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and I will say two things:

Proverbs 22:9: Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

Matthew 25:37: Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or thirsty and give you drink? And the King will answer them, Truly, I say to you, as you did it to the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

## REPUBLICAN SOLUTIONS FOR JOBS

(Mrs. NOEM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. NOEM. Madam Speaker, the Democrats who run Washington, D.C., continue to lead this country down an irresponsible path: a ceaseless march of regulations out of Washington threatens to choke off American innovation; government spending continues at unsustainable levels; and the specter of ObamaCare, it looms large over every sector of our economy.

Is it any wonder that we continue to see stagnant job numbers like those released last week? Nearly 12 million Americans are out of work, 4.4 million of them with no job for 6 months or more.

Simply put, it's not fair. It's not fair to any American, which is why House Republicans are committed to securing the future for all Americans. We have a plan to create jobs and expand opportunity, and we'll do it by growing the economy, not by growing the government.

□ 1240

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to stand with the families of those who fell in Sandy Hook who are here on this campus today to talk about unfinished business. I stand with them in mourning for those of their family members who died by senseless gun violence and thousands who have died since.

I will soon leave this House to go to read the names of those who have died in Sandy Hook and beg my colleagues for once to come together and vote for universal background checks and gun storage laws that simply provide safety and security for our children—unfinished business.

I stand here today, as well, to restore the trust to the American people about their privacy rights and civil liberties and ask my colleagues in a very bipartisan manner to rein in the number of private contractors—70 percent of the intelligence budget—and I intend to introduce legislation that will hopefully find an opportunity for bipartisan, thoughtful efforts to bring back the trust of the American people.

Madam Speaker, we have unfinished business. I stand here to finish it.

## REPUBLICAN SOLUTIONS FOR JOBS

(Mrs. WALORSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WALORSKI. Last week's jobs report was yet another stark reminder that our economy has far from recovered. Nearly 12 million Americans remain out of work, and 4.4 million people have been out of work for 6 months or more; and these are more than just numbers that come out of some monthly Bureau of Labor statistics. These

are our fellow Americans. These are our friends and our family. These are our neighbors and our kids. These are the folks next door. And they—each and every one of them—deserve better.

House Republicans have passed legislation that helps working families maintain that crucial work-life balance. We've passed a long-term fix to the student loan programs to make life better for our recent grads.

These are real solutions, and they're all a part of the House Republican plan to create jobs and secure our future.

## IMMIGRATION REFORM EQUALS JOBS

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it has been 893 days since I arrived in Congress, and the Republican leadership has not allowed a single vote on serious legislation to address our unemployment crisis; but there's no shortage of policies to solve this crisis.

One of the best things we can do to create jobs is to pass immigration reform. When we bring undocumented workers in from the shadows where they're abused and paid below minimum wage, we boost wages for all Americans.

A recent study by the Center for American Progress shows that granting legal status to undocumented workers would create up to 159,000 jobs per year over the next 5 years. By empowering undocumented people to earn higher wages, immigration reform will enable people to spend more on food, clothing, and housing. This strengthens the American economy, builds our tax base, and creates jobs.

Immigration reform is not only about justice. It's about jobs, jobs, jobs.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE ACTIONS AND POLICIES OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BELARUS AND OTHER PERSONS TO UNDERMINE BELARUS'S DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OR INSTITUTIONS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 113-36)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROTHFUS) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed: *To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits